

## 1.1 Structural change in the UK

### Transcript

- Jenny:** You know, I'm really glad I accepted your invitation to visit because Wales is a lot different to what I thought.
- 5 **Bernard:** You showed me where you come from last semester break, so I decided now it was my turn to return the favour. But what do you mean about Wales? What were you expecting?
- Jenny:** Well, I always thought of Wales as an industrial powerhouse. You know, with all the coal and iron mines. Wales was, after all, a bastion in Britain's Industrial Revolution. I guess I expected a pitted landscape, but this is lovely.
- 10 **Bernard:** Yeah, things have changed. What used to be our mainstay is long gone. By the 1980s most of the coal pits in Wales had closed. They say it's because the domestic demand had fallen and we just weren't competitive enough in international markets.
- Jenny:** You know, it sounds a lot like what happened to the textile and shipbuilding industries at home in Northern Ireland. We used to be known worldwide for our linen.
- 15 **Bernard:** I know, and some of the finest ships in the world were built in Belfast. You showed me when I was there, remember?
- Jenny:** Yes, and there's not much of that left now either. Both industries are still struggling even though the Government has tried to attract new business to the region. But let's be honest, it's the people who are struggling the most as a result. Here too.
- 20 **Bernard:** Right. Economies are weak all over. Did you know that Wales still qualifies for EU structural funds as one of the most disadvantaged regions of Europe? We're ranked tenth of the UK's twelve regions economically.
- Jenny:** And guess who's ranked twelfth. Really it's all about service now and there's not much money in that. I just read that services account for almost 70% of economic output and 78% of employees in Northern Ireland. My sister couldn't get a job after she finished university and now she works in a restaurant.
- 25 **Bernard:** Yeah, Wales is dominated by the service sector, too. Our service sector has grown much more than in the rest of the UK.
- Jenny:** Better than nothing!
- Bernard:** Yeah, I don't want to be too pessimistic. We do have two important manufacturing sectors – automotive components and electronics. Ford is one of the biggest employers with a major engine plant at Bridgend. I know a number of people who have found jobs there. More than 150 North American and Japanese electronics companies have started operations here since the 1980s.
- 30 **Jenny:** That ties in well with the end of the coal mines. The foreign investors must be satisfied in Wales. I've often read about the high productivity.
- Bernard:** But unfortunately for me, little is done in the field of research and development here. That's really what I'd like to get into. If there's any R&D activity at all, it focuses on cost reduction rather than new product development and design. I'll probably end up on my father's sheep farm.
- 35 **Jenny:** That's right – the sheep are another thing that comes to mind when I think of Wales!
- Bernard:** All 10 million of them! They outnumber the humans by more than three to one! 80% of our land is still used for agriculture.
- 40 **Jenny:** Well, that draws the tourists. Lots of people are looking for idyllic landscapes. We've got a lot of potential for tourism, too – except for the beach-goers. Our water's too cold for them!
- Bernard:** So where's your bright spot?
- Jenny:** Engineering. It's our largest manufacturing sub-sector.
- Bernard:** In which areas?
- Jenny:** Heavy machinery and aerospace. Not really my cup of tea, but Bombardier Aerospace is our largest industrial employer, with 5,400 workers in the Greater Belfast area. It has definitely helped.
- Bernard:** (*laughing*) So I guess we shouldn't give up hope yet. We can always send the unemployed to Mars!
- Jenny:** And leave the tourists and the sheep down here to fend for themselves.

## 1.1 Structural change in the UK (p.72)

### Solutions

a) Complete the sentences. Tick the correct statement. There is only one solution.

1. Wales' contribution to Britain's Industrial Revolution was ...

	fine ships
✓	coal and iron
	lumber and textiles

2. Most of the coal mines in Wales had closed by ...

✓	the 1980s
	the 1880s
	1980

3. The coal mines closed because ...

	the international market was saturated
	domestic labour resources were shrinking
✓	production in Wales was too expensive

4. Many companies from North America and Japan have ...

	opened hospitals in Wales
✓	founded electronics companies in Wales
	closed numerous companies in Wales

5. Among foreign investors Wales is known for its ...

✓	high productivity
	cheap labour
	new product development

b) Decide whether the following statements are true or false. Tick the correct box.

Statements	True	False
1. Wales has a pitted landscape.		✓
2. Wales has one of the weakest economies in Europe.	✓	
3. Economically Northern Ireland is ranked above Wales.		✓
4. More than ¾ of employees in Northern Ireland are in the service sector.	✓	
5. Ford has made a minor contribution to Wales' economy.		✓

c) Write answers in your own words.

1. What does Jenny mean when she says, "That ties in well with the end of the coal mines."?

Bernard reported that most of the coal mines had closed by the 1980s and that is just when the North American and Japanese electronics companies started operations in Wales. One industry failed and a new one took its place.

2. What is Jenny insinuating when she says, "We've got a lot of potential for tourism, too."?

She is insinuating that Northern Ireland does not do enough to attract tourists and that the tourist industry does not make a big contribution to the economy. Northern Ireland has tourist attractions which could enable tourism to play a bigger role in the economy.

3. What does Bernard mean when he says, "So where's your bright spot?"

Bernard wants to know which economic sector in Northern Ireland is growing and offering hope to the faltering economy.

4. Describe the changes to the economic structures of Northern Ireland and Wales.

International as well as domestic factors caused industries such as coal mining and shipbuilding to decline. As a result, the economies of Northern Ireland and Wales have changed from industrial to mostly service-oriented economies. Manufacturing is also on the rise as foreign investors build plants here.

## 1.2 Youth culture in rural areas

### Transcript

**Kirsten Smith:** This is Kirstin Smith, your WKLH roving reporter. Thank you for tuning in to my weekly radio report. My topic this week is teenagers and what they do in their free time.

5 First there was Generation X and now some people are calling the current generation of teenagers Generation Y, but I believe that Generation M for media is a more appropriate name. Teens in the US spend an average of 30 hours per week using the Internet and watching TV compared to six hours a week reading a book or magazine for pleasure. Is that really all that's out there for teens to do?

Admittedly, it's not always easy for teens to find entertainment. They have mobility at 16, but is there really anywhere to go? They aren't allowed into bars until 21 so that eliminates a lot of possibilities right there.

10 I've spent the last week interviewing teens at the Wisconsin State Fair here in Milwaukee, and was able to talk to a mix of people, to urban and rural teens about their free time, about culture and their favorite pastimes. Today's focus is on the rural teens.

The first place I stopped was at the agricultural buildings – after all, that's what a State Fair is really about. It didn't take long to locate the 4-H exhibits and that's where I found my first interview partner.

15 Brad is 17 and lives on a family farm in rural Wisconsin. He attends Wautoma High School, where there are about 500 students in grades 8 to 12. I asked him what he does in his free time.

**Brad:** Well, I'm in 4-H. You know, the youth club for kids out in the country. That's why I'm here at the fair. I brought my sheep to show. But 4-H isn't just agricultural anymore. At our meetings every week we learn about computers or do craft projects, stuff like that. Sometimes on the weekend I go to Wautoma with friends, but, you know, it's a small town so besides going to the movies or bowling there's not that much to do. There's stuff to do at school during the week and on the weekends – basketball games, dances, band concerts –, but still ... I just wish I had my own computer, like my cousin. He spends lots of time playing computer games or surfing the Internet. Last weekend he went to a LAN party at the community center. Some of my friends from school went there, too, and they said it was pretty cool.

**Kirsten Smith:** The answer I received from Brad was pretty typical of but not exclusive to teens living in rural areas. There were of course overlapping answers from rural and urban teens. School activities such as team practices, sporting events and dances still play a major role in teens' lives no matter where they live. Another common denominator is media. As Brad mentioned, some have a PC in their bedroom. Studies have found that 9% of children ages 8 to 17 have Internet access in their bedrooms, 17% have their own PC in their room and a whopping 61% have a television set in their bedrooms. This own-room access to media technologies has resulted in substantial changes in how kids use media. Media consumption is no longer a family activity and is definitely no longer parent-controlled. Children with TVs and other media devices in their own bedrooms are automatically isolated from the family unit. And there we are back to the term Generation M. Statistics show that by the time most Americans are 18, they will have spent more time watching TV than in school, and far more time than they will have spent talking with their teachers, their friends or even their parents. The American Academy of Pediatrics has determined that by the time today's child reaches the age of 70, he or she will have spent approximately seven years watching TV.

35 Although you can read a lot of criticism about media consumption, there are those who believe that it's not all bad. They say, in fact, that pop culture may be making us smarter. Twenty-year-old Trevor from Watertown, Wisconsin, who describes himself as a video game junkie, gave me his opinion on video games.

**Trevor:** Modern video games give your brain a real work-out. It's not just about coordination and pushing the buttons fast anymore. There's so much information and so many options to sort out in any one game. You constantly have to make decisions. I like to think of it as a series of puzzles that the player has to figure out. You need a long-term strategy to win. And when I say long-term, I mean long-term. Some games can take 40 hours to finish! But I've got time out where I live.

**Kirsten Smith:** Players have to explore and sort through hypotheses in order to make sense of the game's environment. Today's video games make high cognitive demands on the players. As Steven Johnson, author of the book "Everything Bad is Good for You", explains, video games are actually "all about delayed gratification – sometimes so long delayed that you wonder if the gratification is ever going to show." The author also applies the same arguments to today's TV programs. The plots of TV shows from 30 years ago were very simplistic. Today, however, a single episode might contain five different storylines, involving a dozen characters. And today's viewers need to do a lot of filling in while watching their favorite programs to make sense of the numerous allusions made to politics, film or pop culture in general.

45 That is, indeed, some food for thought, a very different take on things that could justify the lifestyle of Generation M teenagers – whether rural or urban. In keeping with the topic, I'd like to invite you to join in our live chat at [www.wklh-radio.com](http://www.wklh-radio.com). Until tomorrow, I'm Kirstin Smith saying goodbye and take care.

## 1.2 Youth culture in rural areas (p.73)

## Solutions

a) Match these numbers to the appropriate information from the radio broadcast.

30	average number of hours per week spent by US teens on the Internet and watching TV
16	age when US teens can drive
7	number of years a child will have watched TV by the time they are 70
21	age in the US when alcohol can be consumed legally
40	possible duration of a modern computer game

b) Use information from the text to ...

1. make a comparison between time spent on the Internet and reading a book:

The average US teen spends five times as much time on the Internet or watching TV than reading a book or magazine for fun.

2. say what 4H is:

4H is a youth club for kids who live in rural areas. The club used to be very focused on agriculture, but that has changed. Nowadays, kids can learn about a wide variety of things at 4H meetings, such as computers. Club members can also exhibit their projects at state fairs.

3. say what effects media consumption may have on families:

Teens' media habits can have a negative effect on the family. Especially when teens have TVs or computers with Internet access in their own bedrooms, it is difficult for parents to control what their children are consuming. Parents and children no longer consume media together and therefore spend less time together and have very little time for talking.

4. make a comparison between TV shows 30 years ago and today:

30 years ago the storylines of television shows were very basic and one-dimensional. However, modern TV shows are a challenge for the viewer's minds. The plots of today's TV shows are much more complex, involving a large number of characters. In addition, viewers have to call up background information to understand all the references made to pop culture, politics or film.

c) Look at this bar chart and decide which information it contains. Give it a title and complete the key on the right side.

Title: Teens' own-room media access to media technologies (in %)

1 (blue): % of children ages 8 to 17 who have Internet access in their own bedrooms

2 (red) % of children ages 8 to 17 who have a PC in their own bedrooms

3 (yellow) % of children ages 8 to 17 who have a TV in their own bedrooms

d) Using ideas from the radio broadcast and your own, explain the title of Steven Johnson's book *Everything Bad is Good for You*.

I can imagine that a large part of Steven Johnson's hypothesis "everything bad is good for you" is based on the media habits of Generation M. As implied in the radio broadcast, video games played by today's teens can actually benefit the players. Unlike games from our parents' generation, modern games require players to make complex decisions throughout the game, to plan long-term strategies and to invest a lot of time before results are seen. Teens learn diligence and determination because it might take hours or even days to receive the reward of victory at the end of a game.

When talking about books, you could turn Johnson's hypothesis around and say "everything good is bad for you." Books, although they may stimulate your imagination, also isolate and allow absolutely no interaction. While video games can be played together, books are meant to be read alone. Books don't allow readers to make any of their own decisions.

## 1.3 The euro

## Transcript

- Sarah:** This is my first seminar here in Heidelberg so I don't have much to compare it with, but I think Professor Berg does a fantastic job of explaining things. Don't you think so?
- Anette:** Yes, I never thought that learning about Europe's market economy in such detail would be so interesting. I'm glad I signed up for his seminar.
- Sarah:** Say, should we do our oral report together? Professor Berg said we could do it with a partner.
- Anette:** Sure. Maybe we can do something where you present the British side and I do the German side.
- Sarah:** That's a good idea. Like what?
- Anette:** Well, what about the euro? I remember how much of a bother it was last year when I visited London and had to exchange money. It would be so much easier if you just used the euro, too. Like the rest of Europe.
- Sarah:** Well ... yeah. It is comfortable to not have to exchange money when you travel, but that's just one simple reason for using the euro. There are a lot of reasons for not using the euro, too, you know.
- Anette:** But wait, I'm not just talking about making life comfortable for tourists. I mean price transparency in general; like Professor Berg talked about last week. Remember he said that a single currency would make it more difficult for companies to get away with charging artificially high prices for goods and services in the UK. Everything is so expensive in London. And with improved competition in the euro zone the result will ultimately be lower prices and better value for consumers.
- Sarah:** But price transparency won't lower prices, Anette. Even if consumers know that something is cheaper in another country, they'll still most likely buy it at home in the shop around the corner. And besides, prices are already transparent – all you need is a calculator.
- Anette:** (*laughing*) Do you want to walk around London with me holding a calculator? Don't tell me you wouldn't be embarrassed. But listen, if the EU did have a single currency at least the prices would be more in harmony.
- Sarah:** I don't buy that argument either. The whole of the UK uses the same currency and there are still differences in prices in the different regions. It must be the same in Germany, too. Prices depend on taxes and the costs of labour, property and transportation, right?
- Anette:** Well, of course it can't happen overnight. The EU is a process; it's evolving.
- Sarah:** And the evolving EU is dominated by the Germans – no offence, Anette – and the French. We don't want the rest of the EU to tell us what to do.
- Anette:** But that's exactly why Britain should join in – so that it has some influence on the course of events. Just look at the history of the EU, Sarah. Britain has been this cautious and hesitant at almost every stage of EU development. And then later you decide that yes, you should get involved. Exchanging the pound for the euro doesn't mean surrendering your political independence, you know. But think about how powerful the euro zone could become.
- Sarah:** Okay, the euro zone could – maybe – become one of the most powerful economic zones in the world. And yes, collectively we could have greater influence in trade negotiations with other economic zones. But even if Britain did adopt the euro, we would still only be one voice in twelve. Right? And if the euro zone expands to the east, Britain's influence will only become more diluted. How can we be sure that the decisions made won't damage our interests?
- Anette:** Well, maybe you have to look at joining the euro zone as the lesser of two evils. Alone Britain won't have any clout when it comes to negotiating with the giant economies of America and Asia. The giants, including the euro zone, will just make deals among themselves to suit their own interests. Britain will become an outsider.
- Sarah:** Okay, but our politicians need to listen to their constituents. The people in the UK just don't want a federal Europe – and you know that's where a single currency is leading. The electorate wants political power on a local level.
- Anette:** Yeah, the turnout at your elections for the European Parliament is very low.
- Sarah:** The people are worried about problems at home; about how to improve the health service and transport systems. We don't need even more bureaucracy.
- Anette:** But to pay for the improvements you need money. And the longer you prolong your indecision regarding the euro, the more jobs will be lost. And then how will you finance these long-term improvement projects?
- Sarah:** You know what, Anette? I think we've found our topic.
- Anette:** (*laughing*) Yeah, Professor Berg should have been here listening to us right now.
- Sarah:** Let's talk to him next Wednesday after the seminar.
- Anette:** Good idea ... (*fade out*)

## 1.3 The euro (p.74)

### Solutions

a) Listen to the recording and write down any facts you learn about the three people.

Sarah	Anette	Prof. Berg
British studying in Heidelberg it's her first seminar	German studying in Heidelberg in London last year	professor in Heidelberg teaches a seminar on Europe's market economy requires students to do an oral report

b) Decide whether the following statements are true or false. Tick the correct box.

Statements	True	False
1. Prof. Berg said that a single currency can deter companies from inflating their prices.	✓	
2. Despite using the same currency, there are regional price differences in the UK.	✓	
3. Anette thinks that the Germans and the French determine the course of the EU.		✓
4. Britain has always been very enthusiastic about developments in the EU.		✓
5. Turn-out at European Parliament elections in Britain is comparatively low.	✓	
6. The euro zone is in competition with America and the Eastern Block countries.		✓
7. The majority of voters in the UK is against the euro.	✓	

c) Expand on four of Anette's arguments for the euro and give Sarah's counter-arguments from the text.

Anette
<p>1. price transparency: A single currency increases price transparency. This would make it more difficult for companies to charge artificially high prices. The ultimate result would be lower prices and better value for consumers.</p>
<p>2. price harmony: A single currency would balance prices across the euro zone so that goods and services would cost approximately the same everywhere.</p>
<p>3. political independence: Being more active in the EU will guarantee political independence because then Britain will be more involved in the decision processes.</p>
<p>4. economically powerful euro zone: More countries involved in and supporting the euro zone will make the euro zone more powerful. This is necessary to stay competitive, especially with America and Asia.</p>

Sarah
<p>1. price transparency: A single currency is not a prerequisite for price transparency. Even if consumers are aware of price differences internationally or regionally, they will still most likely buy at local shops.</p>
<p>2. price harmony: There are, for example in Britain, still regional differences in prices in spite of a common currency. Prices depend on taxes, costs of labour, property and transportation.</p>
<p>3. political independence: People in Britain want political power on a local level and not a federal Europe. They have enough problems to worry about at home without worrying about EU-wide problems.</p>
<p>4. economically powerful euro zone: The more countries are included in the euro zone, the less influence each individual member state will have. Individual interests must be sacrificed.</p>

## 1.4 US immigration

### Transcript

**Scott McVeigh:** It's 10:05 and you're listening to National Public Radio. I'm Scott McVeigh. We're talking about immigration this hour and our first report is from NPR correspondent Kristina Reyes in Chicago.

**Kristina Reyes:** People from around the world are lured to America by its promises of liberty and opportunity. These promises have been fulfilled for the tens of millions of immigrants who came here in the twentieth century. Currently, there are estimated to be about 35 million legal immigrants in the US and 12 million undocumented migrants of which 7.2 million hold jobs, making up 4.9 per cent of the overall labor force. These are usually jobs that US-Americans are not willing to hold. Undocumented workers make up 24 per cent of farm workers and hold 14 per cent of construction jobs – not negligible numbers.

So what would happen if immigrants didn't work? That's what organizers of a nationwide event, dubbed "A Day without Immigrants", wanted to demonstrate on Monday, May 1, 2006. They asked those opposing tighter restrictions on immigration – especially immigrants themselves – to boycott all aspects of commerce, including going to work and school. They hoped their one-day boycott would have a significant negative impact on the country's economy. They hoped that the non-functioning factories, the unserved restaurant tables and unmade hotel beds would make the country realize just how much it depends on immigrant labor.

More than 50 cities across the country – from New York to Los Angeles – organized rallies. A number of companies even made provisions so that their employees could participate in the marches. Tyson Foods, the world's largest meat producer, closed a dozen of its 100 plants across the country. Perdue Farms closed 8 of 14 chicken plants. Cargill Meat Solutions closed plants in six states, giving 15,000 workers the day off so they could participate. Smithfield Foods of Virginia took time on Monday to help employees write letters to US senators and representatives demanding changes in immigration laws, including a "path to citizenship" for those who are willing to work.

Chicago was the site of one of the largest protests, where police estimated 400,000 demonstrators marching through downtown. Schools with a predominantly Latino student body saw a 10 to 33 per cent drop in attendance. At Benito Juarez High School in Pilsen, where nearly all of the students are Hispanic, 17 per cent of the 1,560 kids showed up, spokeswoman Ana Vargas said.

Many Latino-owned businesses closed in support of the protest, such as the popular El Meson Mexican Restaurant in Chicago. Owner Jose Torres marched with his family and 18 employees, losing over \$3000 by closing his restaurant for the day. And his workers didn't have to give up a day's pay to participate. Torres paid them. He said: "The sacrifice is worth it. This country has given me a lot of opportunities. I want others to be able to take advantage of these same opportunities, too."

But Latinos were not the only ones protesting. There were Polish, Irish, Chinese and Korean flags to be seen, too. Jose Delgado, 43, a construction worker from the Mexico City-area took the day off to protest, saying: "This is not just about Mexicans. It doesn't matter what color your skin is or what language you speak. It's about all immigrants. My struggle, and my family's struggle, is the same as what the Irish felt, what the Poles felt, what the Chinese felt. Now, we're all in the same boat."

Democratic Illinois senator Barack Obama was also in the streets on the back of a Teamsters Union truck to oppose a stringent immigration bill passed by the House of Representatives last December. He commented his action: "To those who think we can simply close off the borders and deport, let me say this: There is no reason to fear people who have come here for the same reason as generations of Americans. They want a better future for their children."

The House of Representatives added fuel to the fire of the immigration debate in December 2005 by passing the so-called Sensenbrenner legislation, named after Republican Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin who introduced the bill to the House. The bill includes criminalizing all illegal immigrants and those who assist them and toughening border control by erecting a 700-mile security fence on the US-Mexican border. New York Democratic Senator Hillary Clinton opposes the bill and says it would "literally criminalize the Good Samaritan and probably even Jesus himself".

The Senate approved a bill in May 2006 which looks much different from the House bill. The Senate security fence would only be 370 miles long. The bill also provides for a guest-worker program for illegals who have been in the country 5 years or longer. They would be eligible for legal status or to apply for citizenship, provided they learn English, pay back taxes and a fine and have no serious criminal records. Supporters of the idea call it "earned citizenship", but opponents denounce it as "amnesty".

The House and the Senate seem to be worlds apart. Perhaps they should listen again to what the May 1 protesters had to say: Si, se puede – yes, it can be done.

## 1.4 US immigration (p.75)

## Solutions

a) Complete the sentences. Tick the correct statement according to the radio broadcast.  
There is only one solution.

1. There are 7.2 million ...

	illegal immigrants in the US.
✓	illegal immigrants working in the US.
	illegal immigrants living in the US.
	legal immigrants working in the US.

2. Undocumented workers ...

	are a negligible part of the US work force.
	take jobs away from US-Americans.
	perform only menial labor.
✓	comprise almost a quarter of farm workers.

3. The goal of the boycott was ...

	to sabotage the US-American economy.
	to have a day off.
✓	to show how dependent the country is on immigrants.
	to show how dependent the immigrants are on assistance.

b) What did each company do to 'support' the boycott?

1. Tyson Foods closed 12 of 100 plants across the country.
2. Perdue Farms closed 8 of 14 chicken plants.
3. Cargill Meat Solutions closed plants in six states and gave 15,000 workers the day off so that they could participate.
4. Smithfield Foods helped employees write letters of protest to senators and representatives.

c) Answer these questions according to the text.

1. What are typical jobs for immigrants in the US? Name at least four:

farm workers, construction workers, factory workers, restaurant employees, hotel cleaning personnel, food industry workers

2. What are the three main points of the Sensenbrenner legislation?

criminalising all illegal immigrants, criminalising those who assist illegal immigrants, toughening border controls with a 700-mile-long security fence on the US-Mexican border

3. What are the elements of 'earned citizenship'?

having been in the US five years or longer, learning English, paying taxes from previous years, paying a fine, having a clean police record

d) Answer the following questions. They require you to use your own ideas as well as those from the text.

1. Why do you think opponents denounce the Senate bill as 'amnesty'?

Opponents see the Senate bill as a very easy way for illegal immigrants to gain legal status in the US without having to make any great sacrifices or pay any great penalty. They disagree with the policy of simply accepting the illegal immigrants because they have managed to sneak into the US and live there for five years or more. For the opponents the Senate bill is a free ride for illegals.

2. Explain the last words of the text: Si, se puede – Yes, it can be done.

The immigrants who protested on May 1 believe in the advantages of the US and in the possibility of reconciling the two sides of the conflict, namely illegal immigrants and lawmakers in Washington. They see immigrants as an important, essential force in the American economy, which the US cannot do without. Immigrants are willing to work and contribute to the economy so the US government should be willing to make concessions to the immigrants and accept them as legal citizens. It is possible to find a compromise.



## 1.5 International peacekeeping

### Transcript

**Thomas Park:** Good morning ladies and gentlemen. My name is Thomas Park and I am a professor at the United Nations University. I'm very happy to see that so many pupils have come here today. First of all, let me read a short description of the university from our mission statement. "It is our goal to contribute, through research and capacity building, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems that are the concern of the United Nations, its Peoples and Member States". In line with our mission statement, my main focus at the university is peace and international relations.

We are a small group today so please feel free to interrupt me with any questions you might have. Let's begin.

When addressing the topic of international peacekeeping, as we are doing here today, it is perhaps best to start by answering the question: Where and when did it all begin? In May 1948, the UN Security Council decided to deploy 36 unarmed military observers to supervise a fragile ceasefire in the first Arab-Israeli war. These were the first United Nations peacekeepers. More than half a century later, hundreds of thousands of people, most of them soldiers, have served in almost 60 United Nations peacekeeping operations. More than 1,790 military and civilian peacekeepers have died while serving in United Nations operations.

To be sure, the UN requires extensive funding to support its operations and each member country is required to make financial contributions based on the country's share of the global economy. In fact your own country, Germany, is one of the biggest financial contributors to the UN. Germany's contributions amount to approximately 10% of the UN's regular budget. Germany has also been involved in numerous UN peacekeeping operations, sending troops and police officers to the countries in need.

However, it is important to keep in mind that peacekeeping can take on a variety of forms and doesn't always necessarily involve military troops. Here's a nice example of how people from all walks of life can be active in peacekeeping.

Vlade Divac, a Serb who plays for the Sacramento Kings, is a member of the NBA All-Star team and a UN Goodwill Ambassador. More importantly he is a hero and a symbol of peace to youth from countries once part of Yugoslavia, that is Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia & Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The programme is called Basketball without Borders and was developed jointly by the United Nations' Drug Control Programme and the National Basketball Association. This past year fifty boys participated in a three-day camp in Italy with the goal of rediscovering how to live and play together and of overcoming ethnic differences. Divac and eight other NBA stars from the Balkans coached the boys.

**Pupil:** Excuse me, Professor Park. I have a question.

**Park:** Yes, go ahead.

**Pupil:** Basketball without Borders sounds like a really great programme, but a basketball camp cannot undo the last decade of violence in the Balkans.

**Park:** That's true, and a very insightful statement, but then again, that is not the goal. The camps can help to teach the next generation that with mutual respect, cooperation and hard work, people from different ethnic backgrounds can share a future that is not clouded by hatred.

I'd like to move on to a more controversial topic – Iraq. This is an excellent example for showing the complexity of international relations and peacekeeping. As you know, the UN is involved in Iraq – but not militarily. The United States, along with a number of allies, is responsible for the military presence in Iraq. Europe was split regarding support for the war, which prompted the US Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, to label all opposing European countries, Germany amongst them, as "old Europe". Germany has, however, supported reconstruction in the country by providing police training outside Iraq. The UK is one of America's allies in the war, which has caused domestic problems for the Labour government. As you can see, the subject of Iraq has threatened to cause new rifts in world politics. Yes, there's a question at the back.

**Pupil:** But how can the US act without a UN mandate? How can they just start a war on their own?

**Park:** A very critical question, indeed. The United Nations needs to address and reestablish the role of the UN Security Council in maintaining world order. It is correct that a country should not be denied its right to self-defence, but on the other hand all member nations of the UN need to abide by the charter and act within the UN framework regarding major security objectives ... *(fade out)*

## 1.5 International peacekeeping (p.76)

## Solutions

a) Listen to the recording and circle the word or phrase that completes the sentence correctly, according to the text.

1. More than 1,790 military and *civilian* peacekeepers have died while serving in United Nations operations.
2. Each member country is required to make *financial contributions* based on the country's share of the global economy.
3. Germany has, however, supported *reconstruction* in the country by providing police training outside of Iraq.
4. The camps can help to teach the next generation that with *mutual respect*, cooperation and hard work, people from different ethnic backgrounds can share a future that is not clouded by hatred.

b) Find the term from the text which matches these definitions.

1. The body which coordinates UN peacekeeping operations: *UN Security Council*
2. Someone acting on behalf of the UN out of concern: *UN Goodwill Ambassador*
3. UN body for addressing global problems from an academic angle: *United Nations University*
4. UN programme relating to addictive substances: *United Nations' Drug Control Programme*
5. Cooperative programme targeted at youths of various ethnic backgrounds: *Basketball without Borders*

c) Answer these questions in complete sentences.

1. Describe the first UN peacekeeping operation in your own words.

About 60 years ago the UN Security Council resolved for the first time ever to assist in peacekeeping operations. There was a ceasefire in the first Arab-Israeli war in 1948, but the ceasefire was delicate. 36 unarmed military observers sent by the UN were to oversee this ceasefire.

2. What is remarkable about Germany's role in the UN?

Germany's financial contributions account for approximately 10% of the UN's regular budget, which makes Germany one of the largest contributors.

3. On the subject of Iraq, what are the 'new rifts in world politics' Prof. Park is referring to?

There are disagreements among the UN member states regarding the war in Iraq. Alliances have been formed outside the framework of the UN, while other member states have been labelled unfavourably because they did not join the alliance.

4. What problems has the UN Security Council encountered in view of the war in Iraq?

The disagreements, as mentioned above, have been a problem for the UN Security Council. The UN's strength lies in its wide-spread acceptance and the high level of recognition it has throughout the world. If its role as world peacekeeper is called into question by member states, this could severely undermine its authority.